

## **Amendments to the Specification**

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 6 with the following rewritten paragraph:

- - In an alternative form, an elongated and generally convex part-cylindrical surface is formed on one of the upper and lower end plates, and a generally ~~convex~~ concave part-cylindrical seat defined preferably by offset radii is formed on the other of the two end plates. When the upper and lower end plates are suitably affixed to adjacent vertebral bodies, the part-cylindrical convex surface is retained in articulating engagement with the part-cylindrical concave seat, in a manner permitting a substantially full and natural range of motion, including anterior-posterior flexion, medial-lateral extension, and a limited range of axial rotation. - -

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 17, line 3 with the following rewritten paragraph:

- - In accordance with one primary aspect of the invention, the part-cylindrical bearing surfaces 42, 44 formed on the upper and lower end plates 30 and 32 each have a part-cylindrical contour defined by offset radii, similar to those shown best in FIG. 3. In particular, each bearing surface 42, 44 is defined by curving sides to be formed as arcs of a circle, but wherein the centers of these arcs are spaced apart or laterally offset by a small increment to provide a relatively flattened rotational platform interposed between the curving ~~radiuses~~ radiused sides. - -